

Biography

James F. Brown was elected Mayor of the City of Rome, New York, a city with a population of more than 35,000, in November 2003.

Mayor Brown was born in Johnson City, New York. He attended Chenango Valley High School. Upon graduation, he served in the United States Air Force from 1965 to 1969, receiving an honorable discharge and an Air Force commendation. Upon discharge, he enrolled at Broome Community College, graduating with an Associate's Degree in Marketing in 1971.



Brown demonstrated his eagerness for hard work, joining the Golub Corporation in 1976 as a store manager and working his way up through the corporation, serving in such positions as Merchandising Development Manager from 1994 to 1996, coordinating new merchandise plans, return on inventory and manpower and productivity needs for the total corporation; Manager of Special Projects from 1996 to 1998, enhancing profit and loss accounts for 22 stores; and finally as Zone Director from 1998 to 2003, overseeing the total operation of 11 stores.

In addition to his work commitments, Brown has also been highly active throughout his career in community projects and organizations, serving on the Rome City School Board from 1997 to 1998 and on the Board of Managers at Rome Murphy Memorial Hospital.

He has also served on the board of directors for such local organizations as the Rome Chapter of the American Red Cross; Rome United Way, the Rome Sports Hall of Fame; Rome Rotary Club and the Salvation Army.

He has received such awards as the Rome Area Chamber of Commerce Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Community's Economic Vitality in 1994 as well as a New York State Assembly Citation presented by Assemblyman David Townsend, of the 115th Assembly District, in July 1993.

Brown is married to Debi (Ruane) Brown. He has two children, a daughter and a son, as well as three grandchildren.

Since taking over as Mayor of the City of Rome, Brown has worked to implement his vision for the City of Rome, including the revitalization of the city's economy by spurring economic development and investment; redeveloping the city's downtown through a Main Streets program designed to re-establish the city's major commercial corridors, and create an aggressive marketing program for the City of Rome. As Mayor, Brown supervises a staff of some 400 full-time employees and another 400 part-time seasonal and temporary employees and a budget of nearly \$38 million.